

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 2022 231127Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02  
SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01  
USIA-06 PRS-01 /080 W  
-----002124 231300Z /53  
R 230915Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9640  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 2022

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, RP  
SUBJECT: REACTION TO MUSLIM PEACE PROPOSAL

REF: MANILA 20205

1. PETER SCHAEFFER RETURNED TO MANILA FROM ZAMBOANGA DECEMBER 23 AND BRIEFED EMBOFF ON HIS DISCUSSION WITH COL. A. S. ANDAYA, CHIEF OF STAFF, PHILIPPINE MILITARY SOUTHERN COMMAND (SOUTHCOM) AND ACTING SOUTHCOM COMMANDER IN ADMIRAL ESPALDON'S ABSENCE. SCHAEFFER APPRISED ANDAYA OF HIS CONTACTS WITH MNLF LEADERS IN JIDDA (REFTTEL) AND SOLICITED HIS REACTION TO MBLO/MNLF'S DESIRE TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS. SCHAEFFER STATED ANDAYA WAS EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN THE POSSIBILITY OF PEACEFULLY RESOLVING THE CURRENT CONFLICT THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MBLO LEADERSHIP. ANDAYA EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO TALK WITH MBLO LEADER RASHID LUCMAN WHO HE KNOWS PERSONALLY.

2. SCHAEFFER REPORTED ANDAYA EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN OVER THE CURRENT SITUATION IN MINDANAO AND THE SULU ARCHIPELAGO. ANDAYA REVEALED THAT PHILIPPINE MILITARY HAS RECEIVED " A CONFIRMED INTELLIGENCE REPORT" OF THE PRESENCE OF A SOVIET ADVISER WITH MNLF FORCES IN  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANILA 2022 231127Z

KOTA KINABALA, SABAH. ANDAYA CLAIMED THAT THE SOVIET IS ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE LOGISTICAL CHANNELS FOR AID TO THE MNLF. ANDAYA, WHO HAS SERVED IN THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES FOR A CONSIDERABLE LENGTH OF TIME AND KNOWS MOST OF THE EXPATRIATE LEADERS, EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT THE SALAMAT/LUCMAN GROUP WAS CAPABLE OF EXERCISING SUFFICIENT CONTROL OVER MNLF FORCES TO HALD

THE FIGHTING AND KEEP ANY PROMISES MADE DURING NEGOTIATIONS.

3. SCHAEFFER SUGGESTED WASHINGTON AS AN APPROPRIATE PLACE FOR ANDAYA'S MEETING WITH LUCMAN; SCHAEFFER STATED HE DID WARN ANDAYA THAT ANY INVOLVEMENT OF THE UNITES STATES WOULD OF NECESSITY BE LIMITED AND WOULD BE DEPENDENT ON A FORMAL REQUEST FROM THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT TO FACILITATE THE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. COMMENT: ANDAYA'S REACTION IS ONLY THE FIRST, AND A RELATIVELY UNAUTHORITATIVE ONE, TO THE MBLO PEACE PROPOSAL. WE ARE NOT PREPARED AT THIS STAGE TO PREDICT THE REACTIONS OF SENIOR MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND PRESIDENT MARCOS TO THIS PROPOSAL. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION TO CONFIRM REPORTED PRESENCE OF SOVIET ADVISER WITH MNLF IN SABAH. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS REPORTS AND RUMORS OF FOREIGN CAUCASIAN ADVISERS TO THE MNLF, BUT THESE HAVE NEVER BEEN VERIFIED, MUCH LESS IDENTIFIED AS SOVIETS.  
NEWSOM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PEACE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MANILA20222  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770479-0914  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MANILA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19771222/aaaaasbc.tel  
**Line Count:** 82  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 0ec1cafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 MANILA 20205  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 139770  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REACTION TO MUSLIM PEACE PROPOSAL  
**TAGS:** PINS, RP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/0ec1cafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009